

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 006238

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/03/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KPAL](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: JORDAN'S KING ABDULLAH HOSTS PA PRESIDENT ABU MAZEN

Classified By: CDA DAVID HALE FOR REASONS 1.4 (b) AND (d)

[11](#). (C) Summary. According to a Jordanian official, PA President Abu Mazen expressed to King Abdullah his commitment to a smooth Gaza withdrawal, but voiced frustration with the stance of Israeli PM Ariel Sharon. The King proposed the formation of a committee of Arab foreign ministers to provide support for the PA. Abu Mazen described his recent visit to Damascus as "disappointing", with Syrian President al-Asad making contradictory statements on the presence of militant Palestinian factions in Syria. During his trip to Lebanon, Abu Mazen signaled that he had no objection to the Lebanese Army entering refugee camps and disarming militias. End Summary.

[12](#). (C) Charge met August 2 with Jordanian National Security Advisor Saad Khayr, who had just left a lunch meeting hosted by King Abdullah for Palestinian Authority President Abu Mazen. Khayr said that they found Abu Mazen to be very focused on achieving a smooth Gaza withdrawal, as evidenced by Mazen's meetings with Israeli PM Ariel Sharon. Khayr told Charge that Abu Mazen was upset with Sharon's reluctance to permit rehabilitation work to begin on the Gaza airport, as well as with Sharon's sarcastic response to a request for help in arming PA security forces. Sharon reportedly suggested that Abu Mazen take the guns and ammunition from the militant factions in the Palestinian territories.

[13](#). (C) The King proposed the formation of a ministerial committee, comprised of the Jordanian, Egyptian, Palestinian, and Saudi foreign ministers, to meet for regular briefings, and to support the PA before, during, and after the Gaza withdrawal. Abu Mazen agreed to this proposal.

[14](#). (C) According to Khayr, Abu Mazen described his visit with Syrian President Bashar al-Asad as "disappointing". When pressed on Palestinian rejectionist bases in Syria, Bashar was highly contradictory. First he said that the militant factions had packed up and moved to Lebanon. Then he stated that the groups only had press offices in Syria. Finally he said that they were simply beyond his control. To cap off the story, Bashar was then able to summon the leaders of the different factions for a meeting with Abu Mazen.

[15](#). (C) According to Khayr, Abu Mazen said that when he traveled to Lebanon, he signaled to the GOL that he would have no objection to the Lebanese Army entering refugee camps and disarming the militias. Abu Mazen said that he told Lebanese officials that the Palestinians there should obey Lebanese law and that Lebanese sovereignty should be respected on all of its territory. Abu Mazen was not sure if his intimations to the Lebanese would be followed by any action on their part.

HALE